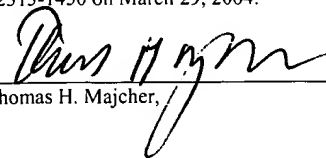


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CERTIFICATE OF MARKING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 29, 2004.


Thomas H. Majcher,

Reg. No. 31,119

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/632,741 Confirmation No.: 2770
Applicant : Brent Belding et al.
Filed : August 4, 2000
Art Unit : 3738
Examiner : Chattopadhyay, Urmi
Title : DETACHABLE SHEATH TO PROVIDE PRE-DEPLOYMENT
STENT SECURITY AND ENHANCED PRECISION

Docket No.: : ACS-53498 (2106P) March 29, 2004
Customer No. : 24201 Los Angeles, California

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AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is made in response to the Final Office Action of January 27, 2004.